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ART. XXII.—*Journal of a Route through the Western Parts of Makran.* By CAPTAIN N. P. GRANT.

INTRODUCTION.

THE following journal of a route through Makran was performed in the year 1809, by Captain Grant, a young Indian officer of great promise, who was assassinated by a rebel Persian chief in the following year. The geographical results of this tour have been published elsewhere; but the journal itself, which, together with some further information concerning the unfortunate writer, was presented to the society by his friend, Sir Henry Worsley, has not hitherto appeared. In the present conjuncture, when public attention is drawn to the countries lying between India and Persia, the details of this tour may be of some utility, and with this object a copy was taken to India by Sir James Carnac. It is a plain description of the country, evidently not intended for publication in its present form; but the untimely death of the writer prevented any correction.

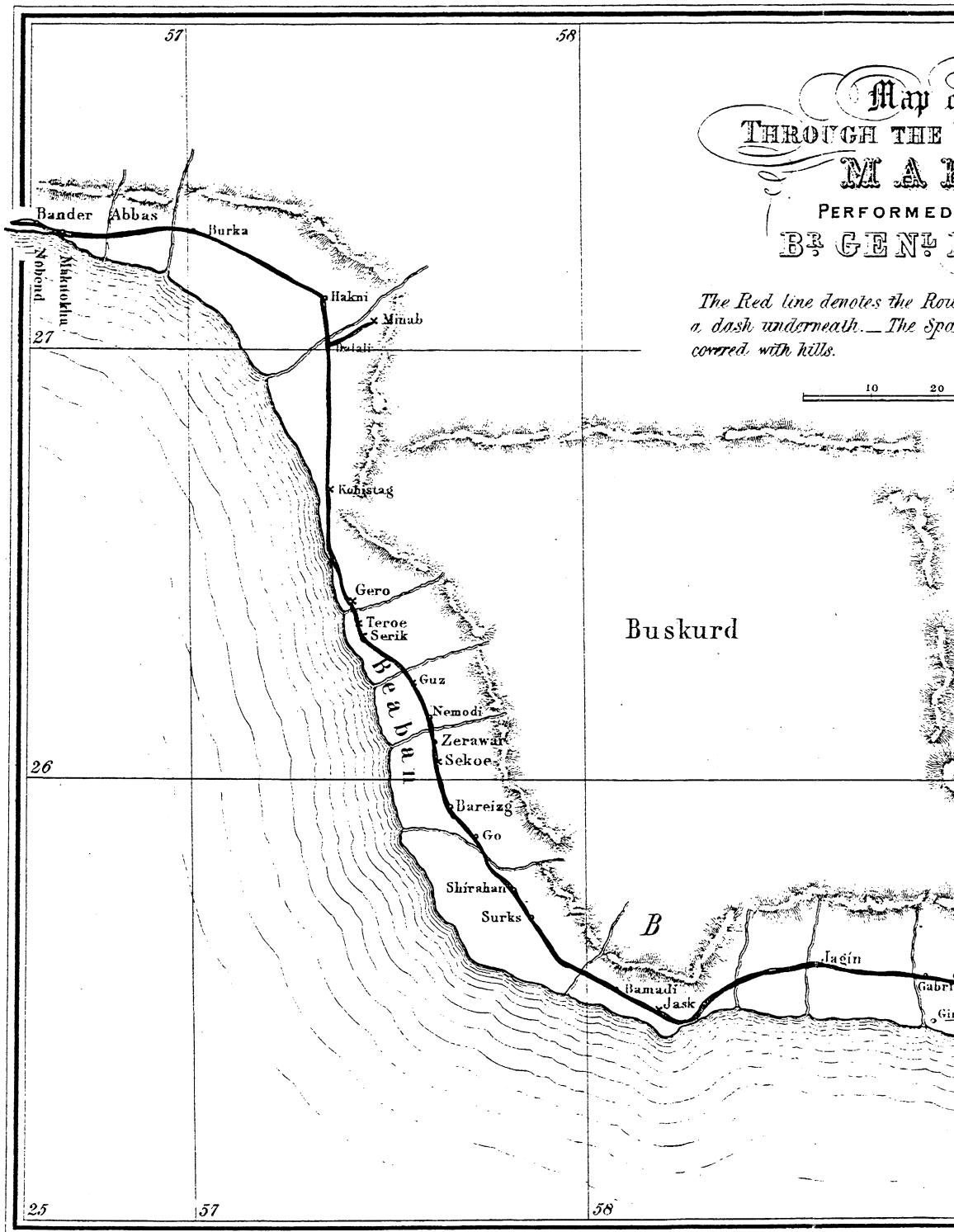
JOURNAL.

Having received instructions from Brigadier-general Malcolm, to examine the western countries of Makran, I embarked on board the Honourable Company's cruizer Ternate, and sailed on the 18th of January, 1809, from Bombay.

Jan. 29th.—Arrived at Goadur¹, but on inquiry, the country was found in such an unsettled state, that Captain Seton thought it advisable I should land further up the coast.

30th.—Landed at Gwuttur, a village belonging to Mír Soban; it consists of about 150 mat-huts, and a small mud fort. The inhabitants are chiefly fishermen, who exchange their surplus for grain from the interior: there is not the slightest cultivation about the place. Water is procured by digging two or three feet in the sand, but after a short time it becomes brackish. Two nullahs fall into the sea at this place; one from Champ and Dashtyarí, the other from Surbaz and Bawú; they are dry, except during the rainy season, commencing in November, and continuing three or four months.

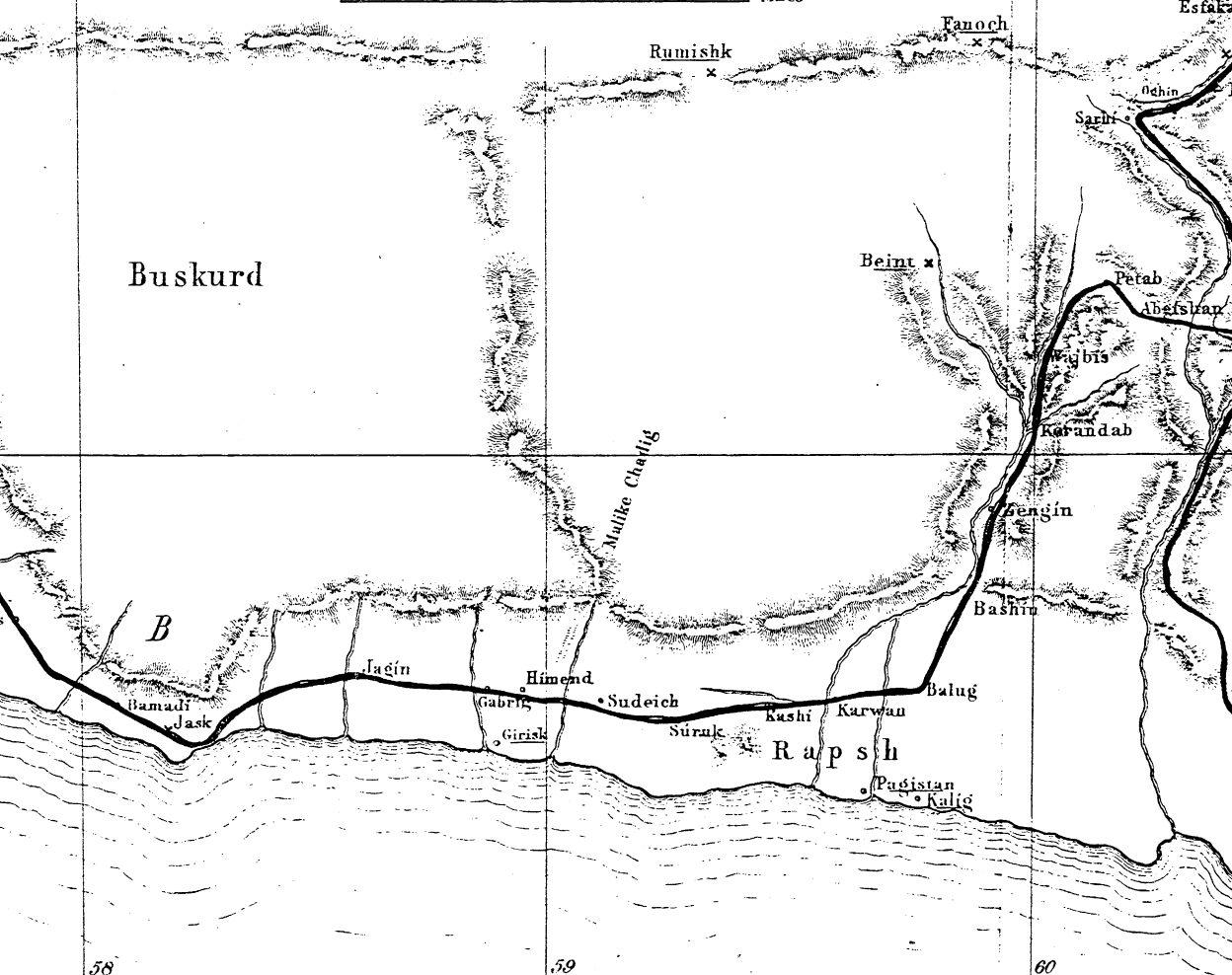
Feb. 1st.—Marched to Nagor; the first two miles over a swamp, occasioned by the discharge of water from the nullahs; the remainder of the road over a barren plain, except within two or three miles of Nagor, where some slight signs of cultivation were observable. This



Map of a Route
THROUGH THE WESTERN PARTS OF
MAKRAN,
PERFORMED BY ORDER OF
B^T GEN^L MALCOLM.

The Red line denotes the Route.— Places laid down from Report have a dash underneath.— The Space between the Ranges A & B is entirely covered with hills.

Scale N.P. Grant. 1809
10 20 30 40 50 Miles

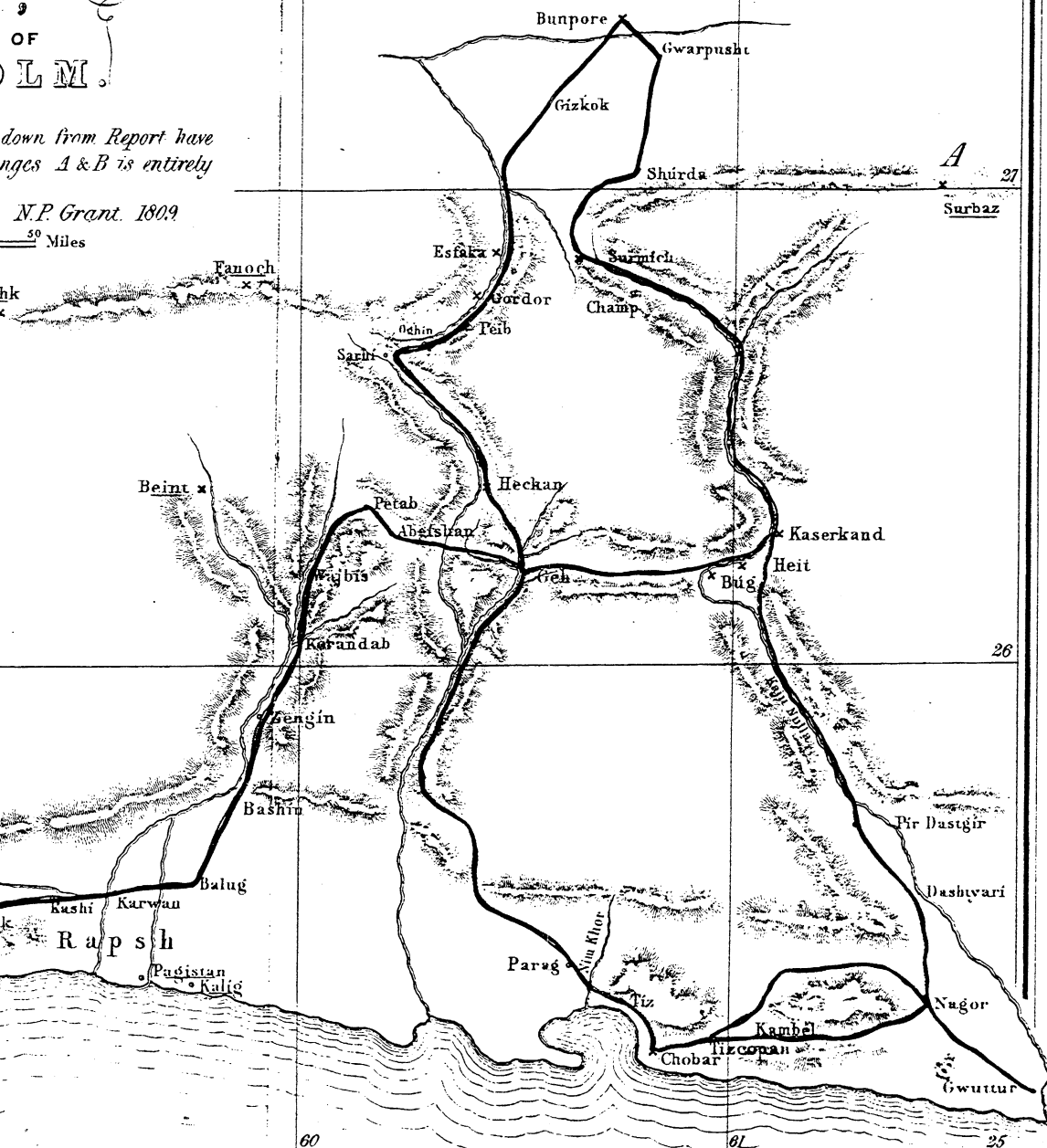


OF
LM.

down from Report have
anges A & B is entirely

N.P. Grant. 1809

50 Miles



village consists of about 250 mat-huts, and a small mud-fort. The country to the northward of it, for about a mile, abounds in wells, and produce sdates, tobacco, and cotton; but beyond this it is a mere desert.

Nagor is the residence of Mír Soban, whose territory extends from Jewanf, on the bay of Gwuttur, to Chobar, and about forty miles inland. This country is generally termed Bawu Dashtyarí, being the names of his two largest villages. His tribe is Judgall, and is originally from near Sindé, the language of which country they still retain. The forces of this chief amount to about 300 cavalry and 3000 infantry; but the whole of these could only be collected on an actual invasion of his country: their arms are the matchlock and sword. His revenue is about 6000 rs. This tribe is of greater weight in Makran than any other, its alliance being courted by all the neighbouring chiefs.

I was furnished with letters from Capt. Seton to Mír Soban, and from their influence was received with every attention; indeed, that I was able to perform this journey at all, can only be ascribed to the high respect Capt. Seton's* name is held in throughout all Makran.

The produce of the country is wheat, joarí, and cotton, but the crops depend on the rains for water; there is generally one barren year out of three—this of 1808-9 was the unlucky one. In a plentiful season enough is produced for two or three years' consumption.

Feb. 7th.—Marched ten and a half miles towards Chobar, to wait the arrival of letters of credit from Muscat; the road very bad, through ravines; no wells, but plenty of water lodged in hollows.

8th.—Road for ten miles as yesterday; thence to nineteen over the plain of Cambel, quite barren for want of rain; Tízcopan is a small village lying at the foot of the hill; at the twenty-second mile, ascended the hill and halted; rain-water procurable only from hollows.

9th.—The road, to three miles, over the hill, and very rugged to Chobar; six and a half miles, road good. This place consists of about 300 mat-huts, and a mud-fort built on a slight eminence on the east side of an extensive bay. The country round about is quite barren, except a few gardens; near the town good water is procured from wells sunk in the bed of a nulla twelve or fifteen feet deep. There is a continual intercourse between Chobar and Muscat; ghee and cotton are the chief exports: it is likewise the mart where the inland countries barter their produce. No great quantity of provisions could be furnished without some previous notice; but after a

* Capt. Seton, of the Bombay establishment, was resident at Muscat and Envoy to Sindé.

plentiful year, and with one month's preparation, a very large supply of grain and dates could be collected. Sheep, goats, and camels, are easily procurable. The duties of this place amount to 5000 rs.; this was formerly divided between the Seid of Muscat and some of the Makran chiefs, but the Seid has now seized the fort, and retains the whole.

11th.—Marched six and a-half miles to 'Tiz, formerly a place of some importance, but of which nothing now remains but fifty or sixty miserable huts. It lies in a valley about half a mile broad and two miles long, surrounded by steep hills, except to the south, where it is open to the sea. There are but two roads leading into the valley, the one from the west, between the sea and the hills, and the other over the hills from Chobar; they were both well fortified.

18th.—Received my letters of credit from Muscat, but no bills above 200 rs. were procurable on the inland towns.

21st.—Marched towards Nagor—the road to 'Tizcopan is the same as before described—thence over a plain; halted at twenty-six miles; some scattered cultivation for the five last miles; water procurable only from hollows.

22nd.—Road leads over a plain for six miles; to seventeen miles over hills and through ravines; to Nagor, twenty miles over a plain. This route is the longest, but best, from Chobar, but it has no water in the hot weather. After procuring letters from Mír Soban to the chiefs of the country, I pursued my journey inland. My letters purported that I had come to Nagor to purchase horses, but none being procurable of the kind I wanted, had proceeded inland in hopes of being more fortunate.

25th.—Marched towards Kaserkand at four miles, palms and water to six, over a plain; at twelve over steep hills; at eighteen over the plain of Dashtyarí: halted on the banks of the Kaju Nulla. This plain is about fifteen miles broad and twenty long, and in favourable seasons is remarkable for its fertility. The Kaju intersects it from north to south, but only furnishes water for irrigation during the rains. The inland inhabitants are scattered about in hamlets of eight or ten huts each. Water in plenty on the road, and procured by digging two or three feet in the nulla.

26th.—The road, to eleven and a half miles, over a plain; here the cultivated part of Dashtyarí ends; to fifteen, among hills; Pír Dastgír, a small village with water; at nineteen and a half entered the Kaju Nulla; halted at twenty-two, water from a cleft in the rocks. The road to-day good, till entering the nulla; through it stony and difficult.

27th.—Marched twenty-four and a half miles over hills and through the Kaju, in which we halted; water as yesterday, but none on the road.

28th.—The road, to twelve miles, through a nulla; to sixteen, through a stony valley; to nineteen, over a plain to Kaserkand; there are no villages for the last three days' journey. The road lies mostly in the bed of the Kaju, which is generally half a mile broad; the country on both sides is covered with high hills of barren rocks; these hills are thinly inhabited by Baloches, whose flocks find a scanty subsistence in the beds of the nullas.

Kaserkand lies in a fertile valley, about twenty-one and a half miles broad, having the Kaju Nulla running through it; the cultivated part is about eight miles in circumference. The town stands on the west side, and consists of about 500 huts and a large mud fort; water is plentifully supplied from twenty-five large springs on the north side of the valley. Wheat, rice, and dates, are produced in the greatest luxuriance; the wheat in Makran is reaped in the end of March or beginning of April, dates in June, and rice in September.

The chief of this place, Shaik Samandar, is independent, and besides the immediate district of Kaserkand, possesses some little territory to the north; but his whole revenue does not exceed 1000 rs. a-year; the inhabitants are about 3000 men. At Kaserkand I met Mahomed Khan, the chief of Geh; he was the only person under whose protection I could proceed further inland, but as he was going to Nagor, I was obliged to wait his return, that I might be furnished with proper persons to accompany me.

March 17th.—Mahomed Khan having returned, I accompanied him, and marched towards Geh; at four and a half miles reached Heit, a fine village with a fort, belonging to the chief of Búg; at nine miles Búg, a short distance on the left; these two places are well supplied with spring-water, and abound in palms; they lie on the banks of the Kaju; the chief is Mír Mohibbie, whose revenue is not above 500 rs. The road to eleven miles lies in the Kaju; the remainder to Geh, forty-one miles, is over hills and through ravines; Geh is situated between two nullas coming from the east, and a third, larger from the north, into which the two former fall. All these nullas abound in springs, some of them hot. The town consists of about 600 huts, and a large, high mud-fort, situated close on the banks of the large nulla; it is reckoned the second city in Makran, Keij being the first; and its dependencies are of greater extent than those of any

other state; they stretch from Chobar 100 miles along the sea-coast, and eighty miles inland. The revenue of this chief is not above 4000 rs. a-year, and he is able to collect about 3500 armed men from his own districts and those of the petty chiefs with whom he is on a good footing.

This state was formerly much subject to be plundered by the tribes on the borders of Makran and Persia, but it has for a few years enjoyed peace from these depredations.

21st.—Marched towards Bunpore. The road this day was fourteen miles, over hills and through ravines, to Hechan, a fine village with a fort, situated on the banks of a nulla; its lands are well cultivated and watered; the inhabitants are about 2000. The dependencies of Geh extend thus far.

At this place I met with a person who had assumed the character of a Scid, and was travelling over Makran and the adjacent countries; he understood most of the oriental languages, and some of the European. I could discover nothing from him at this time; he afterwards sent me a note, saying he was an Armenian, but I could not find out whether he was employed by any one.

22nd.—Marched to Sarhi, twenty-one miles; the road to-day is exceedingly steep and difficult through the Hechan Nulla; it has a stream of water flowing the whole way. This is one of the passes into Makran from the north; there are eight of these passes between Minab and Kelat i Sewir, and they are all so difficult, that the passage might be obstructed by a very small body of men. The greatest elevation of the Makran mountains is attained at this place; the streams to the south flowing towards the Indian Ocean, and those to the north towards the Gulf of Persia.

23rd.—At six and a half miles Oghin, a small village with water and palms; at thirteen miles Peib, a fort, and chief town of the valley of Lashar. This valley is about eight miles broad and twenty-five long, and had a number of fine villages abounding with palms, but from the tyranny of the Bunpore chief, to whom it is tributary, it is now much on the decline; it can furnish 500 good soldiers. At nineteen miles Gordor, a small village and fort; at twenty-six halted; the road for eight miles through ravines, thence through the nulla of Lashar—springs of water in most parts.

24th.—At two miles, Esfaca, a large village and fort; at fourteen quit the Lashar Nulla, and enter on sand-hills; at twenty-seven miles, Gízkok, a halting-place, but no village, the water brackish: numerous flocks amongst the adjacent sand-hills.

25th.—At ten miles, the Bunpore Nulla, with a stream of water twenty yards wide and three feet deep. The sands extend thus far : at thirteen miles, Bunpore.

The fort of Bunpore is situated on an extensive plain, and from the height of the mound of earth on which it is built, is visible at the distance of twenty-five miles ; it is of mud, small, and crowded with buildings. The town contains only a few huts, occupied by the chief's relations and dependants. The inhabitants in general live in huts, scattered about as their flocks and cultivation call their attention. The immediate district of Bunpore is about five miles broad and thirty long, stretching from E. to W., and being well watered with springs, produces grain in such abundance as to supply most of the neighbouring countries. It has a desert of land of about twenty-five miles broad on each side of it : that on the south is bounded by the Makran range of hills, and that on the North, by a range running parallel. The present possessors of Bunpore invaded it twenty-five years ago, and dispossessing the former inhabitants, settled themselves. They are called Narrois, from their former country, Narro, about 250 miles E.N.E. of Bunpore. Their force, when collected, is about 300 cavalry, well armed and mounted, and 2500 infantry. Their chief employment is plunder, their expeditions being generally directed to the westward, extending to Minab and Bander Abbas. The inhabitants and cattle constitute the chief spoil, the former are sold as slaves to merchants from Kandahar, who bring horses in return. These expeditions have been, in some measure, checked, since the settling of one of the Persian Shah-Zadehs in Kerman, about three years ago. The Baloches of Lower Makran are not so accustomed to rapine as the tribes inhabiting the borders of Kandahar and Persia ; the fear of whose ravages obliges travellers, of whom the greatest part are pilgrims from the Punjab and Cabul, to take the route of Sinde, and thence to travel through Makran.

From the bad character of the Bunpore chief, I found it impracticable to penetrate to Minab by the direct route ; I therefore returned into Makran, by the pass of Champ.

April 1st.—Marched eight miles to Gwarpusht, a small village, with springs and palms ; the road is crossed by the Bunpore Nulla, which loses itself in the sands, about forty miles west of Bunpore.

2nd.—The road leads over a desert for twenty-one miles to Shurda, a fountain in the hills ; to twenty-six miles over sand skirting the hills ; to thirty-six over hills ; halted at Surmich, a small fort and village ; it has a well-watered spot of about four miles in circumference, and depends on Bunpore.

3rd.—At six miles, attained the summit of the hills, where there is a very narrow pass, whence the descent, though slight, is to the south, by the Kaju Nulla, which takes its rise about this spot; at nine miles, Champ, a short distance on the right: it is the residence of an independent chief, and can raise 1000 excellent soldiers. The name of the chief is Mír Onba; the principal produce of the country is very fine dates. Halted at Tank, thirty-three miles; water was rather scarce the latter part of the road.

4th.—Marched twenty-three miles through the Kaju Nulla. The banks skirted with palms and houses the whole way. The descent this day is great but gradual.

5th.—At sixteen miles, Kaserkand. The road as yesterday, and plenty of water; at twenty-six miles, Búg. The pass from Bunpore into Makran, by Kaserkand, is longer, but much easier than that by Geh; forage for horses is scarce on this road.

6th.—Marched twelve miles towards Geh.

7th.—Marched to Geh, nineteen miles, being obliged to go to Chobar to pay for the horses I had purchased at Bunpore; I left my followers at Geh, wishing to pursue a route as far from the coast as possible.

8th.—Marched from Geh, the road leading through the Nulla; at ten miles, the Hechan Nulla joins, they fall into the sea between Buzem and Tank, thirty miles west of Chobar; at thirty-three miles, quitted the Nulla, which had water flowing most of the way, and is in many places skirted with palms; to thirty-five miles, through hills and ravines; to forty-one miles, over plains: halted at a nulla with water.

9th.—The road to twenty-one miles among hills and ravines. Here commence the plains. A nulla with water at seventeen miles; at thirty-six miles, Parag, a small village with water from wells; at forty-three, Ním Khor, a salt-water river, unfordable when the tide is in; at forty-eight miles, Tiz. Some part of the plains had been cultivated, but from want of rain the crop was scanty: on this road there are few inhabitants.

10th.—Marched to Chobar, and having transacted my business, returned in the evening to Tiz.

11th.—Marched forty-eight miles towards Geh: the road as before described.

12th.—At Geh, forty-one miles. The direct road to Minab through Buskurd being too mountainous for camels and horses, I was obliged to pursue the route of Jask.

13th.—The road through a nulla for ten miles; to thirteen miles

over hills, crossed the Hechan Nulla, halted at Petab, twenty-eight miles, a small village with palms and water. No inhabitants on the road, but plenty of water.

14th.—At sixteen miles, Wajbís, a small village with water; at twenty-six miles, halted at Korandab, no village, but plenty of water and forage; the road this day leads through a large nulla abounding in forage. The nulla of Beint joins here.

15th.—At sixteen miles, Zengín, a small village with water; at twenty-seven miles, halted at Pashín. Forage and water in plenty. The road continues in the same nulla as yesterday.

16th.—Road to nine miles over stony plains to the wells of Balug; at nineteen, cross the nulla with water in it; at twenty-six miles, halted at Karwan, on the banks of a branch of the same nulla. This day's march leads over the plains between the sea and mountains. The inhabitants reside in temporary huts, which are removed from place to place for the convenience of forage; the flocks of camels and sheep being very numerous.

17th.—At nine miles, the wells of Kashí in a nulla; at thirty-four miles, the wells of Súruk; no water on the road between these stations.

18th.—At eleven miles, Sudeich, a village, with palms and water; at fourteen miles, a nulla; at seventeen miles, Malike Chadig, a high mound of stones, marking the boundary of Makrak; here the territory of Geh ends, and that of Jask commences; at twenty-two miles, Hímend, a small village and well; at twenty-nine miles, Gabrig and a nulla, with the wells sunk in the bed.

19th.—Marched to Jagín, twenty-one miles; no water on the road, but plenty from the nulla at the halting-place.

20th.—At ten miles, a nulla with wells, but the water brackish; at eighteen miles, the hills extend to the sea; at twenty-six miles, Jask, a few palm-plantations on the road; Jask lies about two miles from the sea, and eight from the hills. The town consists of about 250 huts, with a mud-fort, but is now almost deserted, owing to a pestilential fever having raged here for some months. The chief has removed his residence to Serík, about eighty miles off. The water is from wells, and mostly brackish. The country around, to some distance, has been cultivated, but is now much neglected. In the last five days' journey over the plains, a number of spots had been cultivated, but the crops had mostly failed for want of rain. Forage for horses every where abounds.

21st.—At seven miles, Bamadí, a small village with palms and wells; at twenty miles, amongst hills; at twenty-eight miles, Surks,

a cultivated plain with palms and water; at thirty-three miles, halted at Shírahan, a large village deserted; water good and in plenty from wells: the hills in these parts are not so crowded as in Makran, but admit a free and good passage between them.

22nd.—Halted.

23rd.—At seven miles, a nulla with salt water; at ten miles, Go, a small village with water and cultivation; at seventeen miles, Bareizg, water bad and scarce; at twenty-five miles, Sekoe, a large village and fort; at thirty-one miles, Nemudi, a large village and fort; at thirty-seven miles, Guz, a large village; thirty-eight and a half miles, a nulla which, as rain had fallen in the adjacent hills, had a current of water in it; at forty-six miles, Serik, the residence of Mír Hají, chief of Jask. It contains about 600 huts and a large mud-fort, and is four miles from the sea, and six from the hills of Buskurd. From Shírahan to Gero, the country called Beaban is better inhabited and cultivated than any other in these parts, and, indeed, on the whole way from Jask the plantations of palm are numerous, and the wheat-harvest had been tolerably abundant. The wells in these parts, though numerous, do not supply much water, and a number of them are brackish. Forage is scarce near the road, but abundant on the sands close to the sea-shore. Jask is tributary to the Imám of Muscat, and pays 2,500 rs. yearly: the inhabitants are Baloches. Quite up to Minab their language approaches nearer to the Persian than that of the Eastern Baloches, which is more intermixed with Sind. Their religion likewise changes from the Suní to the Shíah sect.

24th.—Halted.

25th.—At two miles, Teroe, a small fort and village; at six miles, Gero, a large village and fort, a nulla runs close to it. The dependencies of Jask extend thus far; at thirteen miles, hills extend to the sea; at twenty-five miles, Kohistag, a fort built on an insulated hill on the sea-shore; the wells are on the beach; halted at twenty-eight miles, water and forage in plenty. The hills retire from Kohistag behind Minab, and do not approach the sea again till beyond Bander Abbas.

27th.—At five miles, a salt nulla; at eighteen miles, the cultivated parts of Minab; at nineteen miles, Balali, on the banks of the Minab Nulla; at twenty seven miles, halted at Hukmi.

The fort of Minab is situated partly on a hill, is of little or no strength, and is divided into the upper, centre, and lower forts; the town is large, and the houses built close to the fort, in a much more commodious manner than any I have yet met with. The nulla

breaks through the hills and forms a pass from the eastward. It, and the cuts made to diffuse its waters, serve as ditches to the fort ; water flows here continually, but is all consumed in fertilizing the lands, none reaching the sea, although only sixteen miles distant. The cultivated parts of Minab are about forty-five miles in circumference, abounding in palms. This district likewise supplies grain to most of the neighbouring country ; its villages are numerous, each having a small fort for the inhabitants to retire to in case of unexpected invasion. Minab would be a most convenient place for an army to halt at, to refresh and collect its provisions ; forage is so abundant that the cattle of the neighbouring countries are sent in great numbers to remain here during the hot season. The chief's name is Gholam Ali, but he is quite dependent on the Imam of Muscat, who receives about 30,000 rs. yearly for this district, and keeps a small garrison in the fort. Although not paying revenue direct to Persia, Minab may be considered as part of that kingdom ; the neighbouring Persian chiefs are on a good footing with it, and lend their force and protection against its disturbers.

27th.—Halted.

28th.—At seven miles, the cultivated parts of Minab, and at twenty-eight miles, a cistern and caravanserai, but both much out of repair ; at thirty-three miles, the nulla of Koventi ; at forty-three miles, a salt nulla ; at fifty miles, Makuokha, a small village and fort, with wells and cultivation. The road to Makuokha over a barren salt plain ; at fifty-six miles, Bander Abbas.

Bander Abbas is in possession of the Seid of Muscat ; it is fortified with several walls within each other without ditches. The country around is barren, and the water bad. A good trade is carried on from the interior, the caravans arriving in the cold weather, during which time grain is procurable in large quantities ; the customs amount to about 20,000 rs., for which, and the Minab tribute, the Imam of Muscat partly accounts to Persia. There are three roads from Minab to Bander Abbas ; the centre, by which I travelled, another by the sea-shore, and a third at the foot of the hills ; the last is most frequented, having a number of villages and a good supply of water.

The principal object of my journey having been to ascertain whether it were possible for a European army to penetrate through this country to Sind, I will proceed to deliver my ideas on that subject. There are two routes by which this might be effected ; the first by marching east from Minab, and entering Makran by the pass of Rumishk or Fanooh, and continuing the route by Beint, Geh,

and Keij, at the distance of 90 or 100 miles from the coast, till it falls into the road leading to Corachey from the inland countries.

The commencement of this route, that is, from Minab to Fanoch, has, from all reports, plenty of water, and indeed the old road from Chobar to Minab formerly led by Fanoch. In the whole tract between Rumishk, and where the route joins the Corachey road, water is plentiful. The country produces dates in considerable abundance; flocks are met with, but not very numerous; grain is scarce. This route would be almost impassable to artillery, from the mountainous nature of the greatest part of it; it would be best adapted to infantry, as furnishing a sure supply of water and a considerable quantity of provisions, which could never fail altogether, as the palm-trees offer a sure resource at all seasons. It would be advisable for no larger bodies than 5000 men to move together, as the roads are in some places very difficult.

The second route is along the sea-coast by Jask and Chobar to Corachey; this route is nearly uniform the whole way, over plains, between the sea and mountains; in the part of it that I travelled over, I experienced no want of water, except in a small tract of forty miles between Shírahan and Serik, where the water is soon dried up in the wells, but this is of less consequence, as they are numerous. Little or no rain had fallen this year, and yet the nullas always afforded a large supply of water. Provisions would not be procurable, unless precautions had been taken to collect them at Chobar or Goadur, but flocks both of camels and sheep are numerous. This road would be best adapted to artillery and cavalry, from its level nature, and from furnishing everywhere supplies of forage for horses. The troops should move in bodies not exceeding 2000 or 3000, the water at many of the stations being confined to one spot.

The opposition of the natives might impede, but not obstruct this passage; it would most effectually be offered in the upper route, where irregular troops might continually skirmish—in the plains it would avail nothing; I do not think any would be offered, except instigated by some foreign power, and to effect this no difficulty exists.

Makran is divided among a number of petty chiefs; the principal are those of Bunpore, Geh, Bawu, Surbaz, Keij, Dizéc, Penjgorc, and Balah—the three former have already been mentioned. Surbaz lies about fifty miles ESE. of Bunpore, and commands one of the passes leading into Makran. This state was formerly of much greater power than at present, holding the whole country down to the sea, including Bawu and Dashtyarí. The lower districts

have lately been wrested from it by the Judgalls, a tribe which the ancestors of the present chief, Mír Dostín, invited from near Balah, and settled here to enable themselves to resist the power of Keij; its chief places are seated on the nullah which passes Bawu. Keij is reckoned the chief city of Makran, and lies 120 miles east of Casercand, opposite one of the passes; its power is now merely confined to a small district near the town; it has two forts, the larger being held by a governor from Kelat i Sewir, the smaller by the chief Marrab Khan; he is of a tribe called Gijki, from the name of a town some days' journey NE. of Keij, whence he derives his origin. The produce of Keij is the same as that of Surbaz; the nature of the country is mountainous. Dizce lies 100 miles east of Bunpore, and its inhabitants are nearly as famous for rapine as the Narrofs. In their plundering expeditions they have been known to move upwards of 200 miles in three days, sweeping the country of its inhabitants and cattle. The territory of Dizce is a mixture of plains and hills. Penjgore lies 100 miles ENE. of Dizce, and is still tributary to Kelat; its territory is mountainous. Balah is a short distance inland from Lonemeany; the inhabitants are in a better state than most of the Baloches. Buskurd, which belongs to Kerman, lies at the western extremity of Makran, and occupies the nook of land which projects into the Indian Ocean, and forms one side of the entrance of the Gulf of Persia, leaving a small extent of plain between the mountains and the sea; it is the most mountainous in these parts, and is inhabited by a brave and hardy race, who sometimes infest the lower roads towards Minab; it yields excellent dates, and carpets of a mixture of cotton and wool are its chief manufacture: springs of water abound through it.

Makran was conquered by Nassír Khan, Chief of Kelat i Sewir; but on his death, about fifteen years ago, either his son's indolence, or the country producing little advantage, has caused this authority to be relinquished, and the present chief has only possession of a fort at Keij. Braoní is the name of the Kelat tribe, and they are in a better state of civilization than any of the Baloches; a considerable intercourse subsists with Kandahar, Korachey, and Hyderabad. The climate of Kelat is so cold that there is snow four months in the year.

The whole force of Makran, exclusive of Kelat, may amount to about 25,000 men, but in the present state of things, it would be impossible to make them act together; indeed the country has not resources to maintain them in a body for any considerable time; when a chief takes the field, he summons his vassals, who are obliged

to attend him forty days at their own cost ; but in general, the affair is decided in twelve or fifteen days. Instead of pay, these men are assessed at a lower rate than the other inhabitants, and are frequently altogether exempted. As soldiers, the Baloches are neither remarkable for great bravery nor for a deficiency of that quality, but in general they might be reckoned steady men ; they are very expert with the matchlock, which, with a sword, shield, and large knife, forms their equipment ; they seldom quit their houses unarmed. A great number of them are employed by the Arabs in their dows and ships of Muscat, and they are reckoned very faithful.

The lower and central countries of Makran are chiefly employed in agriculture, the manufacture of cloths, and attention to their flocks. They are, I think, a quiet and well-disposed people ; the Baloches of the hills, who lead a savage life, apart from the towns, sometimes infest the roads ; in the higher countries the inhabitants are more inured to blood and rapine, esteeming attention to their lands as an object of much less importance than arms, but I found them hospitable, and a manly freedom characterizes them ; they are a more robust and braver race than the southern tribe, and so much have they prevailed in all their contests, that the name of a Narroí strikes terror through Makran.

In the above remarks nothing that has fallen under my own observation has been misstated ; whatever has been received from report, has been carefully selected, but should there be any errors under this head, they must plead for their excuse, the circumstances under which the information was collected.

(Signed) N. P. GRANT:

Extract of a Letter from Captain Grant to Sir H. Worsley, on his return from his Journey through Makran.

" The object of my late mission was to ascertain whether an European army could penetrate into India by the southern coast of Persia ; for which purpose I landed at Chobar, and finished my journey at Gambroon.

" From the judgment I could form, I conceive the design perfectly practicable ; the great obstacle that was supposed to exist, was the scarcity of water, but I found such idea was erroneous.

" I travelled in my European dress, and found the inhabitants more civil and hospitable than they had been represented. I made the purchase of a few horses the ostensible object of my journey."

Note by Sir H. Worsley on the assassination of Capt. Grant.

In 1810, Capt. Grant was appointed one of the assistants, and to the command of the escort with Brigadier-General Malcolm, on his mission to Persia. After reaching the Persian Gulf, Capt. Grant was detached with Cornet Fotheringham, of the Madras Cavalry, to explore the country and routes between the river Tigris and the dominions of Persia, on that frontier. The last letter, I believe, from Capt. Grant, is dated Bagdad, the 28th of March, 1810, in which he says, "I march for Ispahan to-morrow."

Proceeding in an eastwardly direction, when in the vicinity of Kurreemabad, he was made prisoner by a rebel Persian chief, who, after entertaining the party in a tent for two days, agreed to accept of a present, but, unaccountably, on the third day, after Capt. Grant had mounted his horse, shot him dead. They seized and bound Cornet Fotheringham and their two Christian servants, and after two days' confinement, took them out and shot them.

Measures were taken by the King of Persia to have the murderer apprehended; and he determined, as was announced, that the rebel, when taken, should have his eyes put out and his hands cut off; but whether he was ever taken, I never heard.

Extract of a Letter from Brigadier General Malcolm, addressed to the Adjutant General's Office, Bengal. Dated Bombay, June the 11th, 1811.

"I wish to embrace this occasion for expressing my sentiments on the extraordinary merits of the late Capt. N. P. Grant, by furnishing you with an extract from the letter I addressed to the Governor General on the melancholy subject of his death.

"I am gratified to learn that a Cenotaph has been erected to Captain Grant's memory by the officers of his corps, and Lieut.-Colonel Worsley. If it be possible, I should wish to have my name among those who have resolved upon an act that has (as far as I can judge) a value far beyond the usual demonstrations of sorrowing friendship. It is more than the commemoration of a friend;—it is the erection of a durable monument to the noblest qualities of our nature; to courage, enterprise, and public virtue."

Extract of a Letter from Brigadier-General Malcolm to the Right Honourable the Governor General in Council. Dated May 11th, 1810, in Persia.

"Your Lordship will conceive the anguish of mind under which I make this report. In the death of Captain Grant, I have to regret a friend, for whom I cherished the warmest regard and esteem.

"The public has sustained a most severe loss. His character was formed for enterprise, and had he lived, his courage and talents would have rendered him conspicuous in the highest walks of the service to which he belonged."

INSCRIPTION ON A CENOTAPH,

ERECTED AT BARRACKPOOR, BY CAPTAIN GRANT'S BROTHER OFFICERS.

"Man cometh up and is cut down like a flower." "In the midst of life we are in death."

TO PERPETUATE THE REMEMBRANCE
OF
PROFESSIONAL GALLANTRY, MANLY CHARACTER,
AND PRIVATE WORTH,

THIS CENOTAPH IS INSCRIBED,
BY HIS

BROTHER OFFICERS,

TO THE

MEMORY OF CAPTAIN N. P. GRANT,
OF THE

15TH REGIMENT OF BENGAL SEPOYS;

WHO, WHILST EMPLOYED IN THE SERVICE OF HIS COUNTRY,

WAS SLAIN BY BANDITTI,

NEAR THE CITY OF KURREEMABAD,

IN PERSIA,

IN THE MONTH OF APRIL, 1810,

AT THE EARLY AGE OF TWENTY-SIX YEARS.

N.B. On the marble slab, over the inscription, is the emblem of a snapt lily.